

## AF plans to fill first sergeant shortages

Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials will have taken the first step toward eliminating a 10-percent manning shortfall of first sergeant billets before the end of the year.

In November, as part of the new First Sergeant Selection Process, Air Force officials expect to release a list of master sergeants selected as candidates for first sergeant special duty, said Senior Master Sgt. Chris Anthony. He is the first sergeant special-duty manager at the Pentagon.

Those selected under the new process will account for nearly 33 percent of graduates from the First Sergeant Academy at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., Sergeant Anthony said. They will begin attending the school in May.

“That one-third is not an arbitrary number,” Sergeant Anthony said. “It is based on volunteer rates. Over the last year or so, the volunteers only filled about two-thirds of our requirements.”

The Air Force requirement for new first sergeants is reflected in the number of slots allocated in the First Sergeant Academy each year — a little more than 300. Sergeant Anthony said declining numbers of first sergeant volunteers left more than 100 empty desks at the school last year.

Empty desks at the school translate to empty first sergeant billets around the force. About 130, or 10 percent, of the nearly 1,300 units needing first sergeants are currently doing without. That is an unacceptable statistic, said the Air Force’s highest-ranking enlisted member.

“First sergeant manning and decreasing class enrollments at the First Sergeant Academy have become a concern,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. “Since the beginning of 2000, first sergeant manning has steadily decreased from 96 to 89 percent, while the rank structure has become significantly imbalanced. I believe anything less than 100-percent manning is unacceptable to properly lead and care for our enlisted force.”

The prevalence of those empty enlisted leadership positions is one reason the Air Force moved toward selecting some first sergeants, Sergeant Anthony said.

Sergeant Anthony said the list released in November will contain about 400 names. Of those 400, about 120 will eventually become first sergeants. Continuing at that rate, he said, the Air Force can expect to be 100-percent manned for first sergeants by about 2006.



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Volunteers from the Traveling Health Carnival teach child development center children about the basic food groups. During the Combined Federal Campaign, people can choose to donate to more than 1,300 charities, including local organizations like the youth center, Happy Fund and Lowndes County United Way.

## CFC charity drive ends Oct. 31

Tech. Sgt. Becky Roady  
Public affairs

The 2003 Combined Federal Campaign, which gives military people the opportunity to support one or many charitable organizations with a single donation, ends Oct. 31.

The yearly CFC campaign consolidates a diverse range of fundraising and is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the federal workplace on behalf of civilian charities.

“The great thing about CFC is that you have over 1,300 charitable organizations from which to choose where your money will go,” said Chaplain Capt. Bryan Hochhalter,

CFC project officer.

But for those who are more overwhelmed than inspired by the sheer number of choices, CFC offers some painless alternatives to studying the 40-page giving guide.

Instead of scrutinizing eight point type to find the organization(s) working most diligently toward a specific purpose, givers can search online by keyword at [www.bestcfc.org](http://www.bestcfc.org).

Also, instead of money, they can donate cars, trucks, boats or airplanes. Details are available online at [www.bestcfc.org](http://www.bestcfc.org) or by phone at (866) 332-1778.

As another alternative, picking and choosing among the hundreds of charities supporting any one cause,

givers can designate a single agency code number to divide a single donation equally among them such as animal, sports, children’s, disaster relief and humanitarian, and women, children and family service charities.

“The generosity of everyone at Columbus has been amazing,” said 2nd Lt. Steven Koester, wing staff agencies CFC representative. “Hopefully, the last week of the campaign will put us over the top and make this our best year ever.”

All federal employees have the right to contribute or not to the CFC. Individuals wishing to donate can sign up through their squadron representatives. For more information, call Ext. 2500 or Ext. 2530.

## BLAZE 6 rekindles flame, seeks new members

Airman Boto Best  
Public affairs

Columbus AFB’s junior enlisted corps, BLAZE 6, is fully operational and looking for more new members.

“The purpose of the organization is to get enlisted issues heard and to assist in volunteer activities in the community on base and downtown,” said Staff Sgt. Tonya O’Toole, BLAZE 6 president.

The organization’s motto is ‘Six ranks, one voice.’

“We work directly with Chief Master Sgt. Randy Auld, [14th Flying Training Wing command chief], to get our issues to the commander — whether they be dorm, dining hall, housing, or general quality of life issues,” Sergeant O’Toole said. “It is a great morale booster for the airmen.”

BLAZE 6 volunteers provided medical coverage, served as designated drivers, and assisted in the setup and teardown of the BLAZE appreciation picnic in September. BLAZE 6 members also served as escorts at the recent Band of the Air Force Reserve performance at the Mississippi University for Women in downtown Columbus.

Tech. Sgt. Carlos Ramirez, BLAZE 6 vice president, said although the organiza-



Airman Boto Best

Airman 1st Class Brianna Deridder, BLAZE 6, hands out programs at the recent Band of the Air Force Reserve performance at Mississippi University for Women’s Rent Auditorium.

tion is fairly new, it is starting off with great ideas.

“My vision for the organization is to have maximum participation on the part of enlisted members in the grades of E-1 through E-6 in supporting Columbus AFB and the local community,” Sergeant

Ramirez said. “I also envision the free exchange of ideas and experiences between enlisted members, so they can better understand their role at Columbus AFB, in the local community and the Air Force.

“I see us undertaking projects that will

## Happy Fund kicks off to help needy children, elderly

Airman Cecilia Rodriguez  
Public affairs

The Happy Christmas Fund Board of Directors met at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Columbus Club to kick off the annual Happy Fund Drive.

The meeting highlights the beginning of the 50-year tradition of providing Christmas gifts for needy children and fruit baskets to elderly residents of Columbus.

The program began in 1952 when its namesake, George “Happy” Irby, started saving his tips and donations from friends to help underprivileged youth stay in school by providing school supplies, clothing and other necessities.

The effort flourished into the Happy Christmas Fund, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization.

In 2002, the fund gave more than 380 Christmas gifts to children who may not have received any other gift and 100 fruit baskets to elderly people who might have been forgotten.

Volunteers look forward to spreading the Christmas spirit this holiday season.

“Organizations like the Happy Fund are important community outreach tools,” said Julie Keck, Happy Fund volunteer coordinator. “They help those less fortunate than ourselves and give us all a chance to share our many blessings.”

Mr. Irby is very proud of the fact that the organization is run by people who volunteer their time, allowing 100 percent of the donations given to the fund to go directly to helping others.

For more information or to volunteer, call Ms. Keck at 434-5165.

People wishing to donate to the Happy Christmas Fund may send donations to the Happy Christmas Ltd., 602 N. 15th Street, Columbus, Miss., 39701.

In addition, donations may be given to any of the Happy Fund Board supporters: Happy Irby, Stephen Imes, Mark Alexander, Bobby Harper, Charlie Youngblood and John Dickerson.



Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser

George “Happy” Irby, founder of the Happy Fund, talks to some people at last year’s Happy Wrap event. Almost 500 people benefited from the fund last year.



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Fall back

Don't forget to set the clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.

### OSC fundraiser

The Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club sponsors a sale of jewelry by James Quality Jewelers of Bangkok, Thailand, noon to 6 p.m. Monday at the Columbus Club. The sale is open to all BLAZE team members.

### Dining out volunteers

The Enlisted Dining Out Committee is still looking for volunteers to fill the Mister and Madam Vice Positions. Anyone interested should call Ext. 2021.

### Pumpkin patrol

The 14th Flying Training Wing needs 30 volunteers for the Pumpkin Patrol from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 31. For more information or to volunteer, call Ext. 7037.

### Official photos

Col. John Burgess', 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, official photo, 8x10, is available at the public affairs office. For those units on base who need special sizes, photos on foamboard or name plates on the photos, take an AF Form 833 to the photo lab. For more information, call Ext. 7068.

### Chili cook-off

The 14th Mission Support Group's chili cook-off is from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the chapel annex. Tickets can be purchased in advance from a squadron's Combined Federal Campaign key worker. Cost is \$4 before the event or \$5 at the door. All proceeds go directly to the CFC. People interested in being chili chefs can call Ext. 7998.

## Officials offer Sudden Infant Death Syndrome information

**Airman 1st Class Susan Stout**  
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

*(Editor's note: October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month.)*

**LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz.** — Although the cause is unknown, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome claims the life of about 6,000 infants in the United States each year.

SIDS, the leading cause of death in children under one year of age, is the sudden death of an infant that remains unexplained.

Also known as crib death, SIDS usually occurs when the baby is between one and four months old. More boys than girls are victims and most deaths occur during the fall, winter and early spring months. About 90 percent of SIDS

deaths occur before the age of six months.

"There is currently no way of predicting which newborns will die of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome," said Lt. Col. Annette Gomez, 56th Medical Group pediatric nurse practitioner. "The occurrence of SIDS has, however, been linked to certain risk factors."

The 56th MDG offers the following tips to parents to help reduce the risk factors associated with SIDS:

— Place the baby on his or her back to sleep at night and naptime.

— Avoid fluffy, loose bedding in the baby's sleep area.

— Keep the baby's face clear of coverings.

— Be careful not to overheat the baby by overdressing or adding unnecessary covers.

— Don't allow anyone to smoke in the home or around the baby.

— Use a firm mattress in a safety-approved crib.

— Don't allow the baby to sleep alongside another person. The risk of unintentional smothering is too great.

— Keep all well-child appointments, including immunizations.

According to Colonel Gomez, the majority of infants spit up. It's a condition called gastroesophageal reflux or GER. "Oftentimes parents will place their infant on his or her side or in the prone (abdomen) position to sleep," Colonel Gomez said. "Statistics show GER will occur more often in these positions but the infant will have a 3.5 times greater chance of dying from SIDS in side lying position (either side) and 14 times greater chance sleeping in prone position."

For more information about SIDS visit [www.sids-net.org](http://www.sids-net.org).



Maj. Chuck Boothe

**Second Lt. Rimmy Meneses, international student pilot from Bolivia, cooks at a barbecue that all of the Columbus AFB international students attended.**

said. Most currently live in unaccompanied officers quarters, and the language barrier and lack of transportation are difficult for them to deal with. The program gives them a chance to get away from the dorm and get a taste of the cultural experience of Columbus and our way of living.

Second Lt. Heni Meddouri, a student pilot from the Tunisian Air Force, agrees. He went through a similar program at Lackland AFB, Texas.

"It worked well," he said. "When I first got here, I thought all Americans ate out, and that no one cooked at home. But the 'Amigo' program gave me an insight into the lives of Americans — how they think and how they live. I got to see them cook at home and discipline their children."

Sponsors are encouraged to contact their 'adopted' students on a regular basis. Suggested activities include meals, movies, community and sporting events, holiday festivities, cultural programs and group gatherings.

For more information or to adopt a student, calls Major Boothe at Ext. 7621.

## View from the top: Values provide code for behavior

**Gen. Don Cook**  
AETC commander



**RANDOLPH AFB, Texas**

— Integrity. Service.

Excellence. They are not just words. They represent vitally important concepts and are collectively the core values our United States Air Force thrives on.

Recently, a severe error in judgment by some individuals in our command cast doubt on the seriousness with which we hold these values true. A single misguided event has essentially tarnished every one of us in uniform, and two officers were relieved of command as a result.

I won't go into great detail about the event because to do so would not only be in bad taste, but wouldn't serve any useful purpose. I will tell you, I was so incensed by the inappropriate conduct of these six young officers and the complete absence of officership, that I personally spoke with each one of them and explained that their irresponsible behavior goes against everything our command and Air Force stand for and more importantly, what Americans expect of their Air Force.

Why did these officers think it was acceptable to invite

female "dancers" to entertain them at a ceremony marking a significant step in their training? Maybe they and others didn't understand the importance of our core values. So, here's a refresher:

— Integrity: First and foremost this word means being honest with yourself and with others and doing the right thing even when no one is looking. It also means adhering to a code of conduct. Integrity is arguably the most important of our core values because it sets the foundation for all other values and is also the most visible and valuable. Everyone is responsible for the collective integrity of our Air Force.

— Service: Remember each of us has taken an oath of office to support and defend the Constitution. You are a servicemember 24 hours a day, seven days a week, not Monday through Friday! This means balancing your personal life against the requirements of your nation and the Air Force. While your country comes first, commitments to one's family is totally consistent with military service.

— Excellence: Do the absolute best you can at all times. The American people place an enormous amount of trust and responsibility in our abilities to protect them, defend their rights and ensure their freedom.

They deserve nothing less than our very best, and we

## STRAIGHT TALK LINE

*The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.*

*The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.*

*Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil).*

*Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.*

## SILVER WINGS

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All advertising should be submitted to the Commercial Dispatch, advertising department, Columbus, Miss., phone 328-2427. All editorial copy should be submitted to the public affairs office, Bldg. 724, Columbus AFB, Miss., phone

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434-7069, or e-mailed to [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil) by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

### Silver Wings Editorial Staff

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**Col. Steve Schmidt**

**Chief, public affairs**

**Pam Wamken**

**Editor**

**Airman Alexis Lloyd**

**Staff writers**

**Airman Boto Best**

**Airman Cecilia Rodriguez**

## Tips for joggers at Columbus AFB

**Question:** As I was driving through Capitol Village recently at about 8 p.m., I observed four joggers. Only one was using the sidewalk and two were running on the incorrect side of the road (with traffic). Only one of the four joggers was running on the correct side of the road and wearing reflective material. It was hard to see the joggers in areas of poor lighting. However, none were as foolish as the person I witnessed later. He was jogging on Independence (actually on the road

and not on the sidewalk) at 10:10 p.m. in dark clothing with no reflective gear wearing headphones. I had to swerve at the last moment to avoid him. What is being done to encourage safety among those jogging on base?

**Answer:** Thank you for bringing this jogger safety concern to my attention. With the Chief of Staff's renewed emphasis on fitness, this is a great time to remind joggers of Air Force Instruction 31-204, Columbus AFB Supplement 1 and the regulations

that pertain to jogging on base. All joggers need to make themselves as visible as possible, especially when it's dark. Wearing light-colored clothing with reflective materials is always a good option. Joggers are also reminded that headphones in high-traffic areas are not permitted according to the AFI and base safety codes. We are also looking at options to expand our running paths on base to enhance safety and encourage more usage.

*Col. Steve Schmidt*  
14th FTW commander

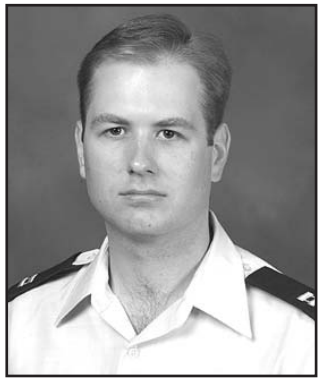
## Key phone numbers

<b>Base Exchange.....</b>	<b>434-6013</b>
<b>Chaplain.....</b>	<b>434-2500</b>
<b>Civil Engineer Service Desk.....</b>	<b>434-2856</b>
<b>Civilian Personnel.....</b>	<b>434-2635</b>
<b>Clinic:</b>	
<b>Family Practice.....</b>	<b>434-2172</b>
<b>Appointment Desk.....</b>	<b>434-2273</b>
<b>After Hours Care.....</b>	<b>434-2273</b>
<b>Columbus Club.....</b>	<b>434-2489</b>
<b>Commissary.....</b>	<b>434-7106</b>
<b>Finance.....</b>	<b>434-2706</b>
<b>Housing Maintenance.....</b>	<b>434-7370</b>
<b>Inspector General.....</b>	<b>434-2927</b>
<b>Legal Office.....</b>	<b>434-7030</b>
<b>Military Equal Opportunity.....</b>	<b>434-2546</b>
<b>Security Forces.....</b>	<b>434-7129</b>
<b>Shoppette.....</b>	<b>434-6026</b>





**Capt. Bryan Dresser**  
Denver, Colo.  
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



**Capt. John Zohn Jr.**  
Poquoson, Va.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



**1st Lt. Andrei-Petre Costache**  
Topoloveni, Romania  
MiG 21, Sedesdi AFB, Romania

# SUPT Class 04-01 earns silver wings



**1st Lt. Zane Holscher**  
Ogallala, Neb.  
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



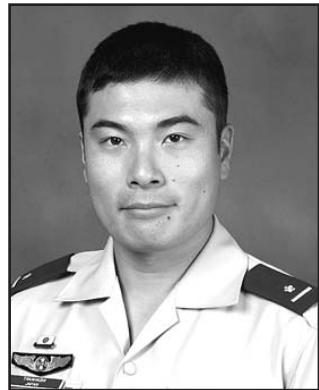
**1st Lt. Sally Maddocks**  
Alpharetta, Ga.  
C-5, Dover AFB, Del.



**1st Lt. Takeshi Okada**  
Akoshi City, Japan  
TBD, TBD, Japan



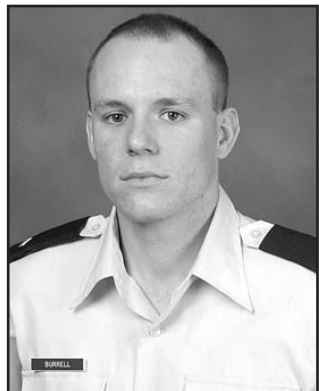
**1st Lt. Genji Orihara**  
Kamakura City, Japan  
TBD, TBD, Japan



**1st Lt. Hidetoshi Takahashi**  
Yokohama City, Japan  
TBD, TBD, Japan



**1st Lt. Jeffrey Ulmer**  
Naples, N.Y.  
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



**2nd Lt. Tim Burrell**  
Salt Lake City, Utah (AFRC)  
C-5, Travis AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Keith Clayton**  
Cullowhee, N.C.  
A-10, Davis-Monthan, Ariz.



**2nd Lt. Travis Clegg**  
Beaumont, Texas  
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-01 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

Twenty-seven officers prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

The graduation speaker is Brig. Gen. David Gray, 12th Air Force U.S. Southern Command Air Forces and Air Force component vice commander, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. Twelfth Air Force ensures the operational readiness of seven active-duty wings in the western and midwestern United States.

Students received their silver pilot's wings at today's ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Capt. John Zohn Jr., T-1, and 2nd Lt. John Clegg, T-38, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lts. Tim Burrell, T-1, and Clark Clayton, T-38. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Captain Zohn and Lieutenant Clegg were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 Tweet. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency

procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet.

T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

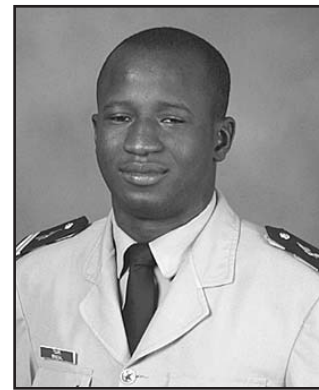
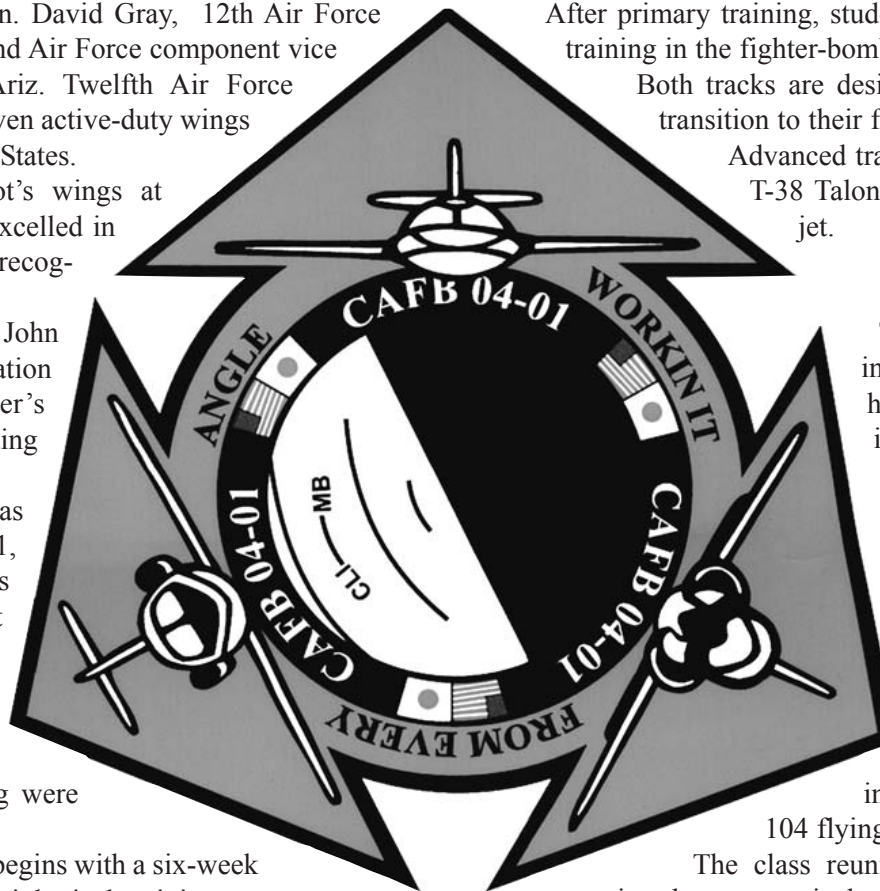
The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions.

Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots.

*(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are The Grill and Sweet Pepper's Deli.)*



**1st Lt. Mohamed Toure**  
Mbour, Senegal  
Fokker 27, Dakar AFB, Senegal



**2nd Lt. Kelly Anthony**  
Claremont, Calif. (ANG)  
KC-135, March AFB, Calif.



**2nd Lt. Robert Bittner**  
Rocky Mount, N.C.  
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



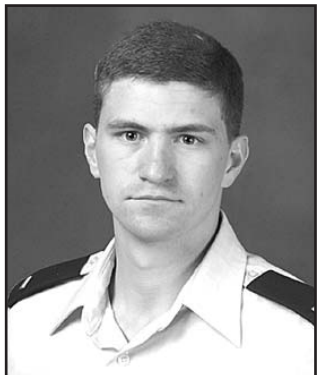
**2nd Lt. Michael Conlee**  
Lee's Summit, Mo.  
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



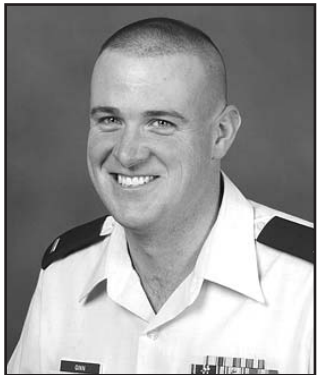
**2nd Lt. Manuel Duenas**  
San Salvador, El Salvador  
A-37, Comalapa AFB, El Salvador



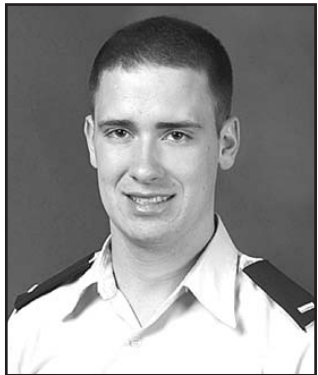
**2nd Lt. Tyler Ellison**  
Layton, Utah  
F-15C, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



**2nd Lt. Eric Frahm**  
Rockville, Md.  
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



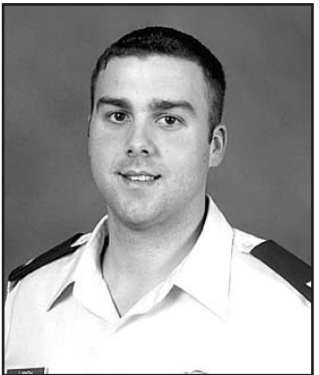
**2nd Lt. John Ginn**  
Tylertown, Miss.  
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



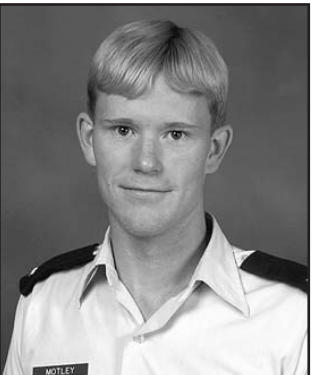
**2nd Lt. Christopher Hetrick**  
Kalispell, Mont.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



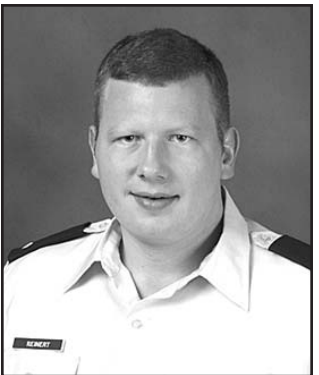
**2nd Lt. Mark Jones**  
Wilmore, Ky.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



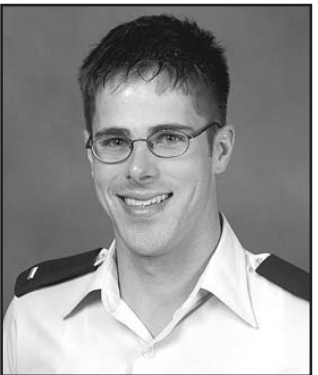
**2nd Lt. Michael Lynch**  
Somers, Conn.  
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



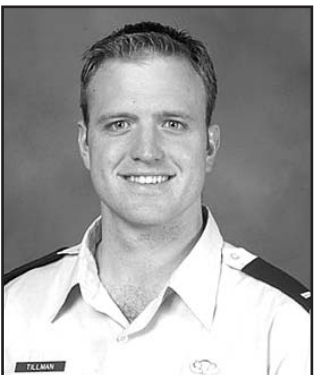
**2nd Lt. Scott Motley**  
Geneva, Ala.  
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



**2nd Lt. Chad Reinert**  
Stroudsburg, Pa.  
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



**2nd Lt. Brett Swiger**  
San Antonio, Texas  
T-37, Columbus AFB, Miss.



**2nd Lt. Aaron Tillman**  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



AT THE CHAPEL

Catholic

Sunday activities:

9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass  
Wednesday  
11:30 a.m. — Mass

Protestant

Sunday activities:

9 a.m. — Sunday school  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship  
Tuesday  
Noon — Lunch and Bible study  
Wednesday  
5:30 p.m. — Dinner and Bible study

For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the theater.

Today

“Cold Creek Manor” (R, violence, language and some sexuality, 115 min.)  
Starring: Dennis Quaid and Sharon Stone.

Saturday

“Matchstick Men” (PG-13, thematic elements, violence, some sexual content and language, 115 min.)  
Starring: Nicholas Cage and Sam Rockwell.

Oct. 31

“Secondhand Lions” (PG, thematic material, language and action violence, 115 min.)  
Starring: Michael Caine and Robert Duvall.

CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

Call Airman Boto Best for more information at Ext. 7069.

Weekdays

9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Air Force Television News

Monday through Aug. 29

9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

College Level Examination

Program Tapes:

Mathematics

FAMILY SUPPORT



**Military Month essay and art contest:** Military Month launches in November. In honor of military families, the Armed Services YMCA and Lockheed Martin are accepting essay entries with the topic “Why I Like to Read,” and art entries depicting a student’s military family at [www.asymca.org](http://www.asymca.org). The Web site provides suggestions for topics, age categories and requirements.

The winner receives a U.S. Savings Bond. Entry forms and requirements are also available at the family support center.

**Remote/deployed briefing:** Military people who are going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing offered at 9 a.m. daily. For more information call Ext. 2794.

BASE NOTES



**Bible studies:** Tuesday lunch study is based on “The Fruit of the Spirit Studies: Overcoming Anxiety and Conflict.”

Wednesday dinner studies include “Elevate” for young adults with Chaplain Bryan Hochhalter, “The Victory” for everyone with Chaplain Lonnie Brooks, and “Wild and Wacky” for children with Joy Garrison.

For more information call Ext. 2500.

**Hallelujah party:** The chapel’s annual Hallelujah party is from 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31. This year’s theme is Hallelujah Hollywood, dress as a Disney, movie or television character. There are games, prizes, a cake walk, movie and treats for all. All ages are welcome, and admission is free.

**Commissary:** The commissary is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Veteran’s Day Nov. 11. For more information, call Ext. 7109.

**OSC social:** The Columbus Officers’ Spouses’ Club’s monthly social is at 6:30 p.m.



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Red Ribbon Week

**Staff Sgt. Cherise Holmes, 50th Flying Training Squadron, asks Staff Sgt. Anthony Wilson, 14th Medical Operations Support Squadron, about the ill effects of narcotics. Red Ribbon Week began Thursday and runs through Oct. 31.**

Nov. 18 at the Columbus Club. The program is “Getting Ready for the Holidays.”

The menu is New England buffet and is \$11. Club members get a \$2 discount. New members are welcome. People must register by noon Nov. 11.

For more information or reservations, call Lisa Davis at 434-8723 or email [airtex60@yahoo.com](mailto:airtex60@yahoo.com).

AROUND TOWN



**Hazard Lecture:** The 12th Annual Hazard Lecture series, The Artist at Work — Inspiration and Perspiration, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at the Heritage Academy in Columbus.

Blues singer/songwriter Dan Penn, who has written for Aretha Franklin, Conway Twitty and Ronnie Millsap, is the featured lecturer and performer. Mr. Penn has performed all over America and Europe.

The lecture series is an annual series

held in memory of George Hazard, a Columbus civic leader and supporter of Heritage Academy. Admission to the Hazard Lectures are free and open to the public. For more information call Brenda Caradine at 328-5413.

**Oktoberfest:** The Mississippi University for Women’s Oktoberfest is at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Shattuck Lawn next to the clock tower. There is a bachelor’s auction, performances and various social organization booths.

**Antique show:** The annual show and forum for antiques is today, Saturday and Sunday at the Trotter Convention Center. For more information, call (800) 920-3533.

**Weekly events:** Everyday is military identification card night with a 10-percent discount at the Princess Theatre and the Stage Door Coffee House.

Tuesdays is Ladies’ Night with specials all night at the Stage Door Coffee House.

Thursdays are Open Mic Nights at the coffee house at 9 p.m. For more information, call 327-6789.

**Fall festivals:** The North Columbus Church of God has a fall festival from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Nov. 1 at 2103 Jess Lyons Road.

The 1st Cumberland Presbyterian Church has a festival at 7 a.m. Nov. 1 at 2698 Ridge Road.

SERVICES SNAPSHOTS

Variety of leisure time activities available to base

**Catfish buffet:** The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat catfish buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays. Cost is \$5.95 for members and \$7.95 for nonmembers.

Customers may also still order from the a la carte menu. Call Ext. 2490.

**All ranks bingo:** Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom.

Play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even coverall game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game.

Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go. Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Payout is based on a minimum number of players. Call Ext. 2489.

**Rhythm and blues night:** The enlisted lounge features Disc Jockey Maze from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. Call Ext. 2489.

**All-ranks brunch:** The Columbus Club offers this brunch from 10:30 a.m.

to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$8.95 for members and \$10.95 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2489.

**Squadron pumpkin carving contest:** The library offers a pumpkin carving contest every year. Squadron representatives may pick up pumpkins Tuesday. Judging is at 2 p.m. Thursday. All entries must be turned in by noon Thursday.

The winning entry earns five large pizzas for a squadron party Oct. 31. Call Ext. 2934.

**Youth center fall festival:** The youth center offers a fall festival from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 31 followed by a dance for youth, ages 9 and older, from 9 to 11 p.m. Entry is \$3 per person. Adults accompanying children are free.

Youth attending the fall festival gain free entry to the dance. There will be a costume contest and a pre-carved pumpkin contest at 8 p.m.

Glow items will be on sale from

Monday to Oct. 31 at the youth center.

Volunteers are needed to run game booths, pumpkin painting and clean-up. Call Ext. 2504.

**Family and teen talent contest:** The youth center hosts this annual contest at 2 p.m. Nov. 1. Stop in and show your support. Winners are videotaped and the videotapes are forwarded to the Air Force competition. Call Ext. 2504.

**Frame shop classes:** The November classes are Nov. 3, Nov. 4, Nov. 10 and Nov. 17. Cost is \$25 per person and includes supplies for the framing project. Call Ext. 7836.

**Crafts classes:** The skills development center offers youth and adult classes each month. Participants must register at least four days in advance to ensure all supplies are on hand. Youth classes are offered at 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. November classes include making a pota-

to chip can reindeer Nov. 5, an angel ornament Nov. 12 and a reindeer votive Nov. 19. Cost for each class is \$4.

Adult classes for November include making a welcome light angel for \$20 Nov. 4, a wooden old-fashioned Santa for \$28 Nov. 18 or a large or small log candle Nov. 25. Cost is \$13 for the large candle or \$7 for the small. Call Ext. 7836.

**National Basketball Association game:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip Nov. 10 to Memphis, Tenn. to watch the Memphis Grizzlies play the Los Angeles Lakers. Game time is 7 p.m. with the bus departing the community center at 1 p.m. and returning around midnight. Cost is \$65 per person and includes transportation and ticket to the game. Call Ext. 7861.

**Parents day out:** The next parents day out is from 5:30 to 11:30 p.m. Nov. 14 in support of the enlisted dining out. Reservations must be made by Nov. 12. Cost is \$3 an hour per child and a nonrefundable \$5 deposit is required when making reservations. Call Ext. 2479.

**Disney on Ice:** The Tupelo Bancorp South Center offers the Disney on Ice show featuring “Toy Story” at 11 a.m. Nov. 15. The information, ticket and travel office is offering a trip for the show. Cost is \$25 per person and includes ticket to the show and transportation. The bus leaves the community center at 9 a.m. Call Ext. 7861.

**Free pet sitting classes:** The next class is from 10 to 11 a.m. Nov. 17. Please call the lodging office at Ext. 2373 to register. To establish a pet sitting service on base, you must attend this class.

**Quick shot bingo:** The bowling center offers quick shot bingo anytime the bowling center is open. Cash prizes. Cards are \$1 each.

**Birthday parties:** The Strike Zone Lanes offers three different birthday party packages ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$4.75 per person.

Stop by the bowling center to pick up a brochure on what is offered with each package. Call Ext. 2426.

**Preschool story time:** The library offers this program at 10 a.m. Wednesdays, which lasts approximately 30 minutes. Call Ext. 2934.



Rachel Kasic

Let’s polka

The Mitternaechters, an oompah band, will entertain at Oktoberfest from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday. A German buffet is also available. Cost is \$7.95 for members and \$9.95 for nonmembers. A children’s menu is also available. Make reservations by 5 p.m. today at the club or via email at [clubcater@ebicom.net](mailto:clubcater@ebicom.net). For more information, call Ext. 2489.



Keep Columbus AFB beautiful. Don’t litter.

# AF releases new fitness standards

(*Editor’s note: More information on the testing will be published in the Silver Wings when available.*)

WASHINGTON — Air Force leaders released the fitness-scoring charts that will be used beginning Jan. 1.

“The amount of energy we devote to our fitness programs is not consistent with the growing demands of our warrior culture. It’s time to change that,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper in a Sight Picture released in July, explaining the rationale behind the change.

Officials said the fitness score will include four components: crunches, push-ups, an abdominal circumference measurement and the 1.5-mile timed run.

People who are not medically cleared to run will continue to take the bike test.

The component scores are then added to get a composite fitness score and determine if the person falls into the excellent, good, marginal or poor category.

The charts are available online at [www.af.mil/news/USAF\\_Fitness\\_Charts.pdf](http://www.af.mil/news/USAF_Fitness_Charts.pdf).

Fitness categories will determine how often a person must retest. For instance, a composite score of 70 to 74.9 places the person in the marginally fit category. This designation requires retesting at six-month intervals.

A score of less than 70 places a person in the poorly fit category. That score requires a retest every three months.

People at the marginal and poor levels also will participate in educational programs. Air Force leaders encourage commanders to recognize people who attain an excellent fitness level or make substantial improvement.



Airman Cecilia Rodriguez

Gilbert Schrieves, 14th Medical Operations Support Squadron, does sit-ups at the fitness and sports center.

“The focus of the new fitness program is not the assessment. The program is about integrating fitness into our culture, and our members adopting fitness as a way of life,” said Maj. Lisa Schmidt, the Air Force Surgeon General chief of health promotion operations.

Officials are finalizing the instruction related to the program and plan to publish it by January.

It will address unit physical training, testing procedures and programs to facilitate improvement, they said.


The Air Force has established an e-

mail account for comments at [fitness.program@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:fitness.program@pentagon.af.mil).

Officials emphasized that the Air Force fitness program will be reviewed annually for continuous improvement. (*Courtesy of Air Force Print News.*)

## SHORTS

Flag football standings		
The following are the intramural standings as of Wednesday.		
Teams	Wins	Losses
14th OSS	3	0
Tweets	3	0
48th FTS	2	1
14th CON	2	1
14th CES #2	2	1
14th SFS	1	1
14th CES #1	1	2
14th MSS	0	3
14th CS	0	3
14th MDG	0	3



### No-tap bowling

No-tap bowling begins at 7 p.m. today at the bowling alley.

Sign up by 6:45 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Bowling expertise isn’t required.

For more information, call Ext. 2426.

### Defender Challenge Golf Tournament

The first ever Defender Challenge Golf Tournament begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Nov. 7.

The format for the tournament is three-person wacky scramble. Entry fee is \$8 for members and \$15 for nonmembers, and carts are extra.

The field is limited to the first 18 paid teams. Gift certificates are awarded to the top three teams.

Door, closest-to-the-pin and long drive prizes are also awarded. For more information or to sign up, call Ext. 7125 or Ext. 7148.